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September 29, 2003

Customer No. 26874
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EV311436466US

EXPRESS MAIL

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner For Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL OF PATENT APPLICATION

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of:

Inventor(s):

Frederick E. Shelton IV,
Jeffrey S. Swayze and
Douglas B. Hoffman

Title:

SURGICAL STAPLING INSTRUMENT HAVING
MULTISTROKE FIRING WITH OPENING
LOCKOUT

Attorney Docket:

END5126-0517368

Drawings:

20 Sheets

Papers Enclosed:

Specification, 19 claims and Abstract (Total of 31 pages); Drawings – 20 sheets; Cover Sheet; Declaration and Power of Attorney; Information Disclosure Statement; PTO-1449; Foreign patent copies and other references; certificate of Express Mail; return postcard

Check Enclosed to
Cover Total Fee:

\$750.00

LARGE ENTITY

CLAIMS AS FILED				
	No. Filed		No. Extra	Rate
Basic Fee				Fee
Total Claims	19	-	20	0 x 18.00
Independent Claims	3	-	3	0 x 84.00
Multiple Claims				280.00
				Total Filing Fee 750.00
				Assignment Recordation
LARGE ENTITY TOTAL				\$750.00

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees during the pendency of this application or credit any overpayment to Frost Brown Todd LLC, Account No. 06-2226:

Any additional filing fees required by 37 CFR 1.16 and/or 37 CFR 1.492;

Any deficiency in the patent application processing fees as required by 37 CFR 1.17; or

Any deficiency in the issue fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.18.

The above authorization does not include permission to charge payment of the entire issue fee to our account upon request of a notice of allowance, but only any deficiency in the issue fee paid by our check subsequent to receipt of a notice of allowance.

A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed for any of these additional charges or credit.

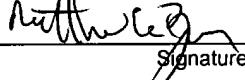
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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited in the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Matthew G. Burgan
Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing


Signature

Respectfully submitted

FROST BROWN TODD LLC

By: 
David E. Franklin
Registration No. 39,194